

Marijuana may be the most misunderstood drug in America today.

Many abusers of marijuana concentrates prefer using an e-cigarette/vaporizer because it is smokeless, odorless, and easy to hide. What's more, marijuana concentrates contain extraordinarily high THC levels - upwards of 100% - which, in the words of Dr. John Douglas, who developed the Outpatient Addiction Program at Silver Hill Hospital in New Canaan, CT, is "the crack cocaine of marijuana."

I know. My 18-year-old son is in recovery from marijuana addiction.

Vaping 97% THC oil induced a paranoid episode in my son. Vaping 97% THC oil robbed him of self-confidence. Vaping 97% THC oil distanced himself from his friends and family. Vaping 97% THC oil resulted in fainting and vomiting. After vaping 97% THC oil, my son drove my car, met strangers in strange towns to get high, and who knows what else.

My son is addicted. What started as a casual, recreational activity very rapidly deteriorated into needing to get high before class, after class, mornings, afternoons, evenings, and all weekend, and stealing THC cartridges from his friends to feed his addiction.

The social stigma of addiction, the lack of awareness of the THC levels present in ALL forms of today's marijuana, and the long history of recreational use - often romanticized in movies, on TV, and mostly definitely on social media - drives incredulity that marijuana can be addictive.

Legalizing marijuana for recreational use without properly understanding the social, economic, and health implications is opening Pandora's box.

For these reasons, I'm urging you to oppose SB 1085. We need more data, more analysis and education before launching into the legalization measures proposed.

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